

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to the Applicants' amendment submitted on 05/19/2008 and the telephonic interview held on 06/20/2008. In virtue of this amendment and this telephonic interview, claims 1-15 are currently presented in the instant application.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John R. Mattingly on 06/20/2008. It includes:

In the substitute specification (clean copy) submitted on 05/19/2008:

Page 1, of the "Description", line 9, between ",", and "the", insert --which has priority based on Japan Application No. 2004-087013 filed on 03/24/2004,--;

In the claims:

Claim 13, line 3, change "claim1" to --claim 1--;

Claim 14, line 2, change "13" to --15--;

Claim 14, lines 2-3, delete "as claimed in claim 4";

Claim 15, lines 1-3, replace "as claimed in claim 13, wherein the comparator of the drive circuit of the organic EL display panel as claimed in claim 5 is provided externally of the IC" with --for testing appropriateness of values of the drive currents of the respective output

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terminals of the drive circuit of the organic EL display panel as claimed in claim 4 according to the converted voltage value or a signal corresponding thereto outputted from the IC--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-15 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest a drive circuit IC of an organic EL display panel, which includes a plurality of current sources for outputting drive currents to a plurality of column lines or a plurality of data lines, wherein each of said plurality of switch circuits having one ends connected to the output terminals, respectively, and the other ends of said plurality of switch circuits connected commonly, each of said plurality of resistors having one ends, and all said ends of said plurality of resistors connected to a predetermined potential line, said selector for selectively connecting the other ends of the plurality of the switch circuits to one of the other ends of the plurality of the resistors, and said switch scan circuit for selectively turning the plurality of switch circuits ON sequentially with a predetermined timing, and wherein the switch circuits and the switch scan circuit are provided in the IC, the output current is converted into a voltage by one of the plurality of the resistors, which is selected by the selector, for the test of the output current of the output terminal and the converted voltage value generated sequentially according to the scanning of the switch scan circuit is outputted from the IC, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 1 (claims 2-15 are allowed as being dependent upon claim 1).

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens W. Douglas can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thuy Vinh Tran/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2821
06/20/2008

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